

NEWS RELEASE

Alabama Department of Public Safety

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Troopers Urge Safe Travel During Memorial Day Holiday *Schedule Safety Checkpoints, Increased Patrols*

MONTGOMERY — Alabama state troopers and law enforcement agencies throughout Alabama will be working to help ensure roadway safety during the Memorial Day holiday weekend, increasing patrols and establishing traffic safety checkpoints.

Law enforcement officers will emphasize safety belt and child restraint enforcement as part of two holiday safety initiatives, Click It or Ticket and Buckle Up America Week.

Troopers will exercise a “zero tolerance” policy, ticketing all who violate the state’s safety restraint laws. They also will aggressively enforce speed limit, DUI and all other traffic laws, according to Col. Mike Coppage, Public Safety director.

“I urge holiday motorists to focus on safety,” said Coppage. “Buckle up, obey the speed limits, and drive safely and defensively. By exercising safe driving habits, motorists avoid the risk of a ticket and help support law enforcement’s efforts to prevent traffic accidents, deaths and injuries during the holiday period,” said Coppage.

The Department of Public Safety estimates that 16 people may die as the result of traffic crashes in Alabama during the 78-hour Memorial Day holiday travel period that begins Friday, May 23, at 6 p.m. and ends at midnight Monday, May 26.

Last year nine motorists lost their lives in traffic crashes during the holiday travel period, five on rural roads and four in urban areas. Five of the crash victims were not using safety restraints, and at least one of the deaths was alcohol related.

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